

WEST LANCASHIRE Champion

15 July 2020

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THIS
WEEK:**



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SPECIAL FEATURE INSIDE...

FOOTBALL CLUB 'OFFSIDE' CALL!

Council investigates claim Burscough FC 'broke planning laws' at new stadium development site

Report by Tom Martin



The site at Victoria Park in a photograph taken when work first got under way there last year

West Lancashire County Council told the Champion they have been contacted by local residents, who have aired similar concerns, and the local authority say they will carry out a "full investigation".

A spokesperson said: "We sympathise with the concerns that have been raised with us by local res-

'Residents are watching in disgust as their local ground is wrecked while the council appear not to take decisive action to ensure that no breaches have occurred or are occurring...' Rosie Cooper MP

idents and Burscough Independent Supporters Association and we are carrying out a full investigation. Once that has been completed we will carry out any appropriate action we have the authority to take."

MP Cooper claims some supporters and local residents "have been sceptical throughout about owner Martin Gilchrist's motives and whether the club will end up with a ground at all."

She added: "Local residents are watching in disgust as their local ground is wrecked while the council appear not to take decisive action to ensure that no breaches have occurred or are occurring.

Continued inside



Caroline Ainger from The Brick with Julie showing off some of her products

Mawdesley glass maker smashes fundraising target

A GLASS maker from Mawdesley has smashed her fundraising target of £10,000, which will be donated to a homeless charity.

Artisan Julie Langan has been selling fused glass rainbows and rainbow hearts during lockdown for Wigan-based charity The Brick. Julie glass workshop and gallery, at Cedar Farm Galleries in Mawdesley, sells bespoke glass artwork and giftware along with a range of glass-making courses. Julie initially launched her campaign to raise money for The Brick in April and set her target at £1,500 with a plan to create and sell 100 glass rainbow pieces.

The first batch sold within 24 hours and Julie made the decision to reopen her order book for a second phase of the campaign, which achieved over £6,000, in under four hours!

Julie said: "This particular project meant so much to me as so many people are facing enormous uncertainty, and it is a great comfort to know that The Brick is there to offer support, help and guidance.

Turn inside

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Lancashire's bid to become UK City of Culture 2025 backed by council

...but Skelmersdale Cllr believes West Lancs should be a bigger part of the plans

Report by Danielle Thompson

LANCASHIRE County Council has reaffirmed its support to a bid for the whole county to be named the UK City of Culture in 2025.

At a meeting of the council's cabinet, members agreed to make a £620,000 contribution towards the bid, its support team and programme development costs.

However, local Skelmersdale Councillor John Fillis believes the plan needs a "radical review" and better dialogue with local boroughs.

Previously the competition has only been contested by individual cities, but the Department of Culture Media and Sport has since indicated that a county-wide bid for Lancashire would be welcomed.

It would bring together all the towns and cities across the county, including West Lancashire, to form one virtual city.



Celebrations after Liverpool was named the European Capital of Culture in 2008

Cllr Michael Green, cabinet member for economic development, environment and planning, said: "At a time of unprecedented change, progressing and winning this bid could form a key part of Lancashire's bounce-back from the Covid-19 crisis."

"My Cabinet colleagues and I are supporting this bid, which aims to produce an ambitious and inclusive cultural programme to integrate the urban areas, the coast and the countryside as a virtual city of 1.5 million inhabitants. This would connect the identities of Lancashire to reshape a better, creative and more sustainable way of living."

"It would help to drive cultural, social and

digital skills development programmes, attract additional investment and visitors to our county, and raise the profile of Lancashire at a national and international level."

The UK City of Culture title was created following the success of Glasgow and Liverpool as European Capitals of Culture in 1990 and 2008 respectively.

At present, three other cities have indicated their intention to bid in 2025, they are Bradford, Medway and Southampton.

Lancashire 2025 expects to present the initial application to the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport in April 2021.

Cllr Fillis is against the plan as it is current format and believes it needs a wider consultation.

He said: "West Lancashire has no clear social, physical or cultural links with Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre. Once again the Conservatives have just stuck West Lancashire hanging on the end as they have not got a clue about the culture or creativity of local people in West Lancashire and they care even less. We don't want to be a part of some Punch and Judy show on steroids."

"We do support the principles of such a bid but these proposal need a radical review and engagement with the boroughs and communities right across Lancashire."

Energy firms given green light to start chasing unpaid bills

ENERGY companies have been given the go-ahead to chase unpaid energy bills again.

During lockdown, many households in West Lancashire took up the option of 'payment-holidays' from the likes of mortgages and energy bills.

Energy companies were told to stop chasing unpaid bills during this time, but they have now been allowed to resume this process - although they have been warned not to be aggressive in their pursuit.

Bailiffs have also been banned from knocking on doors to collect other unpaid debts, such as parking fines or council tax, and this will remain in place until August 24.

Ofgem chief executive Jonathan Brearley said: "We recognise that suppliers cannot extend unlimited credit to customers - nor is this in customers' interests overall - and we anticipate suppliers will begin to restart debt management activities that may have been paused during the immediate crisis."

Meanwhile, energy companies have criticised proposals by the industry's regulator to cut customer's bills and spend more on green investments.

Under Ofgem's plans, households could see their bills cut by £20 a year while firms spend £25bn in the next five years to invest in greener energy.

It means that the return energy firms will be allowed to make from their investments will be nearly halved.

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MP urges council to take 'strongest action possible' against Burscough FC owner

From page 1

"I welcome the latest assurance from the council that they will be investigating four potential breaches of conditions in the construction of the new ground."

"I have responded to them urging them to take the strongest action possible as quickly as possible."

"Most people will expect Mr Gilchrist to have no regard for the rules whilst anticipating the council will follow the rules to the letter while he will do as he wishes."

"It is time for the council to show they will not be pushed around and bullied by those who think they can make a profit whilst those who follow the rules are left miles behind."

Burscough FC declined to comment when contacted by the Champion.

Glass artisan's 'Rainbow' project raises £10,000!

From page 1

"I wanted to bring the campaign to a close, by raising £10,000 for The Brick, and to have achieved all of this in just two months really is incredible and humbling, and I want to thank everyone who has supported our campaign by purchasing a glass rainbow."

Louise Green, CEO at The Brick said: "When we first heard that Julie was creating these beautiful rainbow pieces to raise money for The Brick we were so grateful, as Julie's work is not only beautiful but this campaign has come at a time when the charity needs help from donations and fundraising, more than ever before, to ensure that our essential services continue."

"The COVID-19 crisis has really affected our charity and fundraising initiatives like Julie's are providing us with much-needed funds to help keep our foodbank stocked and to enable us to continue to help the people in our community who need it the most."

"I, and everyone at The Brick, want to thank Julie and to thank everyone who has purchased a rainbow to help us reach the incredible £10,000 target. Thank you!"

Two hospice charity shops to close due to lockdown struggles

Queenscourt stores in Ormskirk and Tarleton to be axed - but mobile 'Donation Stations' set-up to help fundraising

By Danielle Thompson

QUEENSCOURT will close two of their charity shops due to financial struggles brought on by the coronavirus pandemic.

Last week, the Champion revealed that the pandemic had sent the Kew-based hospice's income plunging to less than a third - at a time when they had to shell out more than ever before to equip staff with PPE equipment.

They have suffered from a 66% reduction in legacies left in people's wills and 68% fundraising drop compared to 2019.

Now the team at the hospice, which provides end of life care for patients from Southport, Formby and West Lancashire, have shared the 'sorry' news that their Ormskirk and Tarleton stores will not be reopening at all.

They confirmed that the Southport, Formby and Burscough stores will reopen.

Sue Newth, Queenscourt's area retail manager, said: "We would like to thank all of our loyal customers, volunteers and staff at our Tarleton and Ormskirk shops who have made a huge contribution to Queenscourt over the years.

"We are all so sorry that the shops can't continue, but it is not possible to make the necessary changes to keep our customers safe on those premises.



The Queenscourt charity shops in Tarleton (left) and Ormskirk

"Our intention is to pursue opportunities for pop-up shops in both of these areas, but in the meantime we will be offering a mobile Donation Station facility for anyone who wishes to still donate items to Queenscourt in Ormskirk and Tarleton."

"Further details will be available in due course via our website and social media."

Due to coronavirus measures, they are implementing a 'phased re-opening' of the stores in Southport, Formby and Burscough, which will all have revised opening hours of 10am-3pm from Tuesday to Saturday.

The Churchtown store reopened on July 2, but it is not taking donations - but their Bispham Road shop in Churchtown reopened as a Donation Station instead of a store, taking items which can be properly quarantined before being sold.

Their Chapel Street store in Southport reopened on July 14; the Burscough shop will open on July 21 and the Formby shop will reopen in early August - but the Tarleton and Ormskirk shops 'cannot adequately meet the necessary safety requirements and still generate a profit.'

As well as store closures, key fundraising initiatives that would normally have taken place, including Make A Will month and Star Trekk, have had to be postponed. This also resulted in a significant loss of income for Queenscourt.

Their Queenscourt's eBay site has remained open for business throughout the pandemic at www.tinyurl.com/queenscourtebay

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Lancashire Victim Services expands support after hiring more case workers

THREE new case workers have joined the Lancashire Victim Services team to expand specialist support for children and young people affected by sexual violence or abuse.

Thanks to funding secured by Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner, the new Children and Young People Independent Sexual Violence Advisers will be on hand to offer expert support to anyone affected, aged from five upwards.

Claire Powell, Account Manager at Lancashire Victim Services said: "We are delighted to be able to strengthen our team even further. Sexual abuse has a long lasting impact and it is so important that anyone affected can access specialist support to help them move forward and recover."

"By providing emotional support and helping children and young people through the difficult criminal justice process we can help them navigate through a truly traumatic experience and work with them to find the best

LANCASHIRE VICTIM SERVICES

Lancashire Victim Services

possible way forward together. Having three experts that can provide this specialist support is fantastic news and will make a real difference to young people's lives."

Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw who secured the additional funding from the Ministry of Justice, added: "Supporting victims and vulnerable people is a key priority for me and I am delighted to have been able to secure additional funding for

Lancashire Victim Services. Sexual violence of any kind is abhorrent and all the more shocking when it involves children."

"Young people affected by sexual violence need and deserve to get the best possible support and the two extra posts will strengthen the current team to provide just that."

These specialist advisors can provide practical and emotional support to children and young people, who have experienced rape, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.

They provide emotional and practical support and liaise between the police, courts and other agencies on behalf of the young people affected and help them through the criminal justice process.

Anyone affected by sexual violence, abuse or exploitation can contact Lancashire Victim Services on 0300 323 0085, by using the live chat at www.lancashirevictimservices.org or by emailing info@lancashirevictimservices.org.

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£34m boost to 'drive economic growth in county'

LANCASHIRE Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has secured £34.1million to help "drive economic growth in the county".

Following the Prime Minister's 'New Deal' plans, the LEP, which is a creative collaboration of leaders from business, universities and local councils, secured the funds from the 'Getting Building Better Fund'.

Steve Fogg, Chair of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership said: "I am delighted Lancashire has managed to secure £34.1m to help drive economic growth in the county."

"The Getting Building Better Fund is part of the government's drive to minimise the potentially devastating effect on the economy due to the Covid-19 crisis. Money received from this fund will be invested in projects which will create jobs and invest in much needed infrastructure improvements, helping the county recover and bounce back quicker from the pandemic."

"Working closely with all Lancashire local authorities, Sarah Kemp, the Chief Executive of the LEP and her team, over the past couple of weeks have been identifying a long list of projects across the county which can start almost immediately, be completed within 18 months and which can deliver jobs and green recovery. The fact that Lancashire has managed to secure a significant amount of funding is testament to the collaborative working between the LEP and its partners to work together to help protect Lancashire's businesses and the livelihoods of our residents."

"Clearly this money alone will not be enough but it will be a positive start."



Residents urged to report potholes as repair work stepped up across county

LANCASHIRE'S highway teams are predicted to fix around 36,000 potholes this year, and are asking people to help by using a quick and easy system to report any they find online.

Surveys show that the overall condition of Lancashire's roads is improving, with the council's road repair experts currently making the most of the warmer weather to resurface 175 miles of roads.

At the same time, the wet and stormy winter has had an impact, and highways teams have been working hard to deal with more potholes than usual over recent months. Repair teams focused on responding only to safety critical defects during the early stages of the coronavirus lockdown, but most highway work has now resumed with social distancing and extra safety measures in place.

Everyone can do their bit to help by providing accurate information about the location of potholes, and only reporting those that are big and deep enough to need to be repaired.

Lancashire's pothole-fixing teams work hard all year round, with each team able to repair up to 20 holes a day, but could do an even better job if more people used the 'Report It' tool to provide good quality information when they find a pothole.

County Councillor Keith Iddon, cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "Last winter wasn't particularly cold, but it was very wet, with storms Ciara and Dennis having a particular impact on our roads.

"Consistent investment has led to a gradual improvement in the condition of our A, B and C roads in recent years, and to manage the impact of the winter and ensure this trend continues we're planning to spend around £26m on maintaining our 4,600 miles of roads and 5,300 miles of footways.

"We dedicate significant resources to fixing potholes, and our repair teams, who spend all day repairing them, do a really good job in all weathers to keep our roads safe.

"We're again asking people to



A pothole repair team at work

help us respond to potholes by taking the time to provide accurate information when they report them, preferably by using the Report It function on our website.

"This is a quick and easy process where people can pinpoint the pothole on a map, and provide an approximation of its size, as well as attach photographs.

"This information allows us to quickly assess the risk it presents and decide how to prioritise it.

"Without accurate information it can be difficult to identify the issue being reported which is time-consuming for our highways teams, and potentially frustrating for whoever has made the report."

The county council continuously reviews its approach to maintaining the roads and this year will be recycling more asphalt than ever to reduce its impact on the environment.

The use of techniques which reheat the old material allowing it to be reused during the resurfacing process is being extended, which should see 19,000 tonnes of asphalt being diverted from landfill, and 1,800 wagon journeys eliminated.

Potholes on roads need to be 40mm deep before the council will repair them, with potholes on pavements or road crossings only needing to be 25mm deep to help prevent trips and slips.

Find out more at www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads.

Community Action Fund to support organisations

A COMMUNITY Action Fund has been launched to help organisations and that projects may need to be delivered differently during the coronavirus pandemic.

It comes as 26 projects in Lancashire have been successful in gaining grants, with over £60,000 going towards community organisations who are helping make the county a safer and better place.

It has been created by Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner, Clive Grunshaw.

With the funding reopening for applications, the Commissioner is keen to hear from groups who may be able to deliver schemes in innovative ways, mindful of the impact that COVID 19 has had, with social distancing likely to still be in place in some form for the foreseeable future.

Applications will need to reference expected outcomes of projects and how these will be measured.

Mr Grunshaw said: "The last few months have seen life here in Lancashire change, almost beyond recognition, for many people. We know that the work that my Community Action Fund supports, helping deliver my 'Police and Crime Plan' priorities, is still something that is needed across the county.

"As my fund relaunches, I would like to call on all those groups that support our neighbourhoods and help build more confident, vibrant communities, to apply for support to help deliver those projects that are often the glue that brings people together and keep people safe."

For more information, visit the website: www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/

Singer's star turn - all the way from... his front drive!

Report by Tom Martin

AN entire street was turned into an outdoor concert when a popular professional entertainer performed a show direct from his driveway... complete with his band!

Asa Murphy - well known across the borough - and his musicians put on the hour-and-a-half concert for around 200 neighbours in Maghull.

He also streamed the entire performance on Facebook Live, with more than 11,000 people watching the gig.

The singer, who performs in theatres across the region and beyond, decided to organise the impromptu show, which he called 'The Hope of the Rise' Concert, on Sunday (July 12) to raise money for St Joseph's Hospice after their charity shop in Walton was broken into last week.

Thieves ransacked the store, on Walton Vale, on Thursday, July 9 and stole items as well as causing damage to the building itself, meaning its reopening had to be delayed.

Hospice funds are having to be used for repair work.

Asa told the Champion: "I saw what



Asa Murphy and his band (above, right) perform in his driveway and street!



for free and they all said yes.

"We set up the band in my drive and put on show. All the neighbours really enjoyed - and, socially distanced, had a dance in the street!"

"There must have been around 200 people watching along the street and their own drives and then we put it all on social media with another 11,000 people watching from home."

"I set up a JustGiving site and people also handed me money on the day. One man said he couldn't stay to watch but gave me £20, which was brilliant."

"In total we have raised more than £1,100 which will be donated to the hospice so thanks to everyone who donated."

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Ambulance service gets helping hand from software firm

Report by Tom Martin



East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) has improved its tracking service

AN ambulance service that receives a 999 call every 40 seconds has improved the tracking system of its life-saving kit with help from a Skelmersdale software firm.

East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) operates 650 emergency vehicles and each carries vital equipment such as defibrillators.

Skelmersdale-based software firm CoreRFID upgraded the RFID system to operate under the Android-based platform, enabling EMAS to improve equipment monitoring, maintenance and compliance procedures.

RFID is radio-frequency identification which uses electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects.

Steve Farnworth, EMAS' head of fleet services, said: "My team needs to be able to find kit and know it's safe for patient use, having passed all compliance tests. We manage 650 vehicles across

six counties, each carrying several pieces of vital life-saving equipment. The RFID system assists us in monitoring this equipment efficiently and effectively."

CoreRFID installed the original RFID system five years ago, replacing a manual tracking system.

The RFID solution uses electronic tags attached to each piece of kit which are scanned by special readers.

These detect the tags from up to 2m away without needing a line of sight. The information, such as serial numbers, is then automatically downloaded to the EMAS' database, which keeps the team updated on the kits' last location and condition.

Richard Harrison technical sales director at CoreRFID added: "RFID enables emergency service teams to accurately track and improve procedures with less resource needed than manual systems. While RFID is an established solution, emergency services can upgrade their systems to meet new challenges and take advantage of improved software and readers becoming available."

NHS agrees to provide new cystic fibrosis therapy

WEST Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper has welcomed the newly reached agreement by NHS England with pharmaceutical company Vertex to extend the NHS licensed Cystic Fibrosis medications to include the

triple combination therapy, Kaftrio.

MP Rosie had recently written to NHS Chief Executive Sir Simon Stevens in support of Kaftrio.

Vertex and NHS England have now announced that their port-

folio of licensed cystic fibrosis medicines will be expanded to include Kaftrio.

MP Rosie said: "I am glad that the NHS is continuing to expand the treatments available to Cystic Fibrosis patients."



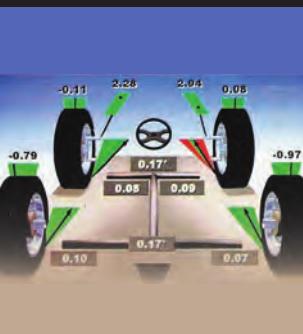
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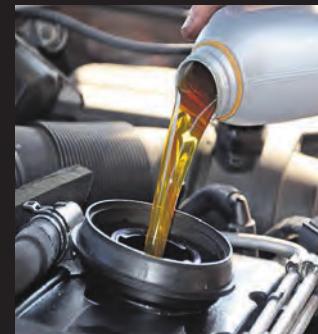
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Leisure and beauty facilities can reopen

MORE lockdown restrictions have been lifted to allow open-air gigs, festivals and theatre shows to resume.

Beauticians, tattooists, spas, tanning salons and other close-contact services have also been allowed to reopen, following a government announcement on Thursday, July 11.

It will come as a much-needed boost for companies and staff in these industries after months of lockdown.

However, not all forms of beauty treatment will be able to go ahead, as some are deemed too high risk. These include face waxing, sugaring or threading services, facial treatments, make-up application and eyebrow treatments.

Further restrictions will be lifted in the coming weeks, with indoor gyms, swimming pools and sports facilities to reopen from July 25.

Grassroots sport, including cricket and football, has also returned.

Boost for tourism and hospitality sectors in August

TOURISM and hospitality businesses in West Lancashire have been given a much-needed boost after a raft of support measures were announced by the government.

VAT will be cut for six months for all businesses in the hospitality, accommodation and attractions industries, while members of the public will be urged to 'Eat Out to Help Out' with a new voucher scheme to encourage people to support local restaurants throughout August.

The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, announced the much-needed boost on Wednesday, July 8, as part of his Summer Economic Update to kickstart the economy post-coronavirus.

The measures will see VAT for hospitality, accommodation and attraction businesses cut from 20% to 5% for six months.

The move is designed to support the sectors which have been particularly hard hit by the coronavirus crisis, helping businesses to recover and boosting the number of jobs available across the country.

The government will pay for up to 50% of people's meals out at restaurants, pubs and cafes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout August.

The Eat Out to Help Out scheme will entitle everyone to a discount of up to 50% on their meal, up to a maximum of £10 per person. Businesses can claim the money back from the gov-



Chancellor Rishi Sunak

ernment, which will be paid in five working days.

Other measures which are designed to help businesses include:

- Temporary removal of stamp duty on homes under £500,000 until the end of March 2021 to help the housing market

- New Kickstart Scheme to create new, fully-subsidised jobs for young people.

- Upgrading the energy efficiency of homes across England through a new Green Homes Grant.

The Government will provide £2 billion to allow people to apply for a voucher, to fund at least two-thirds of the cost of upgrading the energy performance of their homes – up to a maximum of £5,000.

Low-income households will be eligible for up to 100 per cent of government funding, up to £10,000.

- A one-off £1000 payment to employers for every furloughed employee retained to the end of January 2021

Dog owners urged to control pets to help protect postal workers

Figures show 27 postmen and women attacked in West Lancashire last year

Report by Danielle Thompson

DOG owners in West Lancashire have been urged to control their pets around postal workers as part of 'Dog Awareness Week'.

There were nearly 2,500 dog attacks on Royal Mail's postmen and women last year, including 27 in the local borough.

Although the 2019/2020 figures represent a slight 2% dip, this still equates to around 47 attacks every week across the UK, with some leading to a permanent and disabling injury.

During Dog Awareness Week, which was held last week, Royal Mail is appealing to dog owners to ensure they understand the often devastating impact of attacks on postal workers and take proper measures to ensure their pets pose no threat.

In the last year, more than 1,600 (78%) of dog attacks on postal workers happened at the front door, in the garden or in the street. They are appealing to all dog owners to



West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper is backing Dog Awareness Week

'think twice' when they open the door as the postman or postwoman calls.

West Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper is supporting the campaign.

She said: "With 27 attacks recorded across the West Lancashire constituency last year on postmen and women I am once again supporting Royal Mail's Dog Awareness Week. Dog attacks are a significant issue faced by postmen and women, members of the public and indeed by myself and my volunteers when out leafleting."

"Royal Mail and CWU are doing a fantastic job promoting responsible dog ownership and I fully support this important campaign."

Virtual Variety Show to support three charities

A VIRTUAL Variety Show will be held on Friday, July 24 by members of 14 Rotary Clubs to raise funds for three different charities.

The online Zoom event, which starts at 7pm, will raise money for Queenscourt Hospice, Woodlands Hospice and the

Rotary Foundation.

Tickets cost £10 per household and can be bought at rotaryvarietyshow.eventbrite.co.uk



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Pathways widened and cycling links improved to help social distancing

Report by Tom Martin

PATHWAY extensions and better cycling links have been introduced on roads in Ormskirk to help with social distancing.

Lancashire County Council has brought in some temporary changes to roads to not only encourage locals to keep a safe distance, but also encourage them to walk and cycle.

The county council had been working closely with West Lancashire Borough Council to implement the changes.

County Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire County Council cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "Our focus is to create more room for pedestrians to prevent the spread of the virus, and make it easier to cycle due to the continuing restrictions on public transport."

"Current advice is to avoid using public transport unless your journey is really necessary, so instead we're asking people to walk and cycle if they can."

"These temporary measures will create more space for people to keep apart in the busiest areas of Ormskirk town centre, and make it easier for people to walk and cycle as an alternative to using public transport or driving."

"They are part of our emergency response to help Lancashire control and recover from the coronavirus, and we will keep them under review."

A number of measures have created a better cycling link between the town centre and Edge Hill University, and made more room for pedestrians on narrow pavements linking to the railway station.

Moor Street was closed to vehicles where it meets St Helen's Road to extend the existing pedestrianised zone.

This tied into a pop-up cycle lane on the east side



Road works on Moor Street, which prompted some complaints from residents

of St Helen's Road from Moor Street to the junction with Ruff Lane. Ruff Lane was closed to through-traffic at its junction with St Helens Road to reduce the number of vehicles using Ruff Lane, making it a quieter route which is better suited for cyclists.

Councillor Ian Moran, leader of West Lancashire Borough Council, said: "The safety of people living and working in West Lancashire is really important and as well as working with Lancashire County Council we have taken further measures."

However, County Councillor for Ormskirk, Cllr Nikki Hennessy claims the changes have brought "chaos" to the roads.

She claims many residents were unaware of the changes and some of the new layouts have made it more difficult to drive to local businesses.

Cllr Hennessy said: "A resident contacted me about the chaos that the barriers, which were put in overnight without any consultation, were causing. I went along to talk to the businesses that had been affected."

"I spoke with LCC highway officers and the Cabinet Member for Highways County Councillor Keith Iddon and suggested that they remove the barriers. They were very apologetic for the inconvenience caused and thankfully the barriers were removed."

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Plan to tackle 'major problem' of supported housing vacancies

Report by Danielle Thompson

A NEW way of reviewing supported tenancies for people with additional needs has been agreed by Lancashire County Council.

The policy, which aims to increase the occupancy in supported tenancies, is being introduced following an eight week consultation with tenants, their families, care providers and the public.

Housing is provided by housing organisations. The care and support to tenants is delivered by care providers and commissioned by Lancashire County Council.

When there are one or more long-term vacancies in households, it can cause problems for remaining tenants. They may have more support than they need, which impacts on their independence or they may feel lonely without housemates. They will also pay more for household bills than when the house was full.

Vacancies represent additional costs for the



County Cllr Graham Gooch

county council as the need for round the clock support remains, but it is shared with fewer people.

County Councillor Graham Gooch, cabinet member for adult services, said: "Supported housing vacancies are a major

problem. There are currently 160 properties with one or more vacancies, out of a total of 700 supported housing schemes. There are around 225 vacancies in total.

"We have a good record of working with providers to fill these as quickly as possible. However, some properties have had long running vacancies for years with no realistic prospect of them ever being filled.

"We can't keep using council funds to pay for properties that aren't being used when there are so

many other services we need to provide.

"The policy will help to minimise the problem and ensure we make the best use of the accommodation available."

A number of changes have been made to the original policy following the consultation. These include:

- Working even more closely with landlords to act earlier to avoid vacancies.
- Informing tenants of their rights more clearly and outlining how they can access advocacy services to help them with any supported housing issues if they need to.
- Working in partnership with housing and care providers more fully in developing new arrangements.

County Councillor Gooch added: "This policy is a key part of our plans to improve accommodation for adults with disabilities."

Police crackdown on yobs using off-road bikes on busy cycle path

POLICE have carried out further searches of a cycle path between Ormskirk and Maghull following more reports of off-road motorbikes being used by yobs.

The Champion reported last month how three people were arrested and a stolen moped seized by officers along the Cheshire Lines path, which runs from Plex Moss Lane, in Ormskirk, to Sefton Lane, in Maghull.

Since then, there have been more reports of off-road bikes being ridden dangerously along the cycle path by youths.

Last week, a joint operation between Merseyside Police and Lancashire Police saw officers sent to the cycle path to "disrupt the use of off-road motorbikes".



Officers patrolling the cycle path

Railway pathway works completed

AN Ormskirk Councillor is "very happy" with the completion of the Ormskirk Station railway path, which links the train and bus stations for pedestrians and cyclists.

Noel Delaney, who is a Scott Ward Cllr said: "I'm delighted to see the new path from the railway station to the bus station has been completed."

Cllr Delaney said it has taken him "many years" of lobbying to get the work done.

He added: "It has taken many years of lobbying, letters and phone calls from myself to get it done. I must say it looks fantastic."

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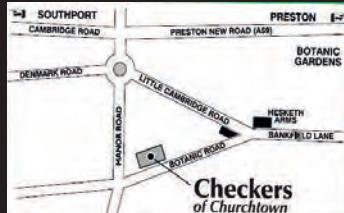
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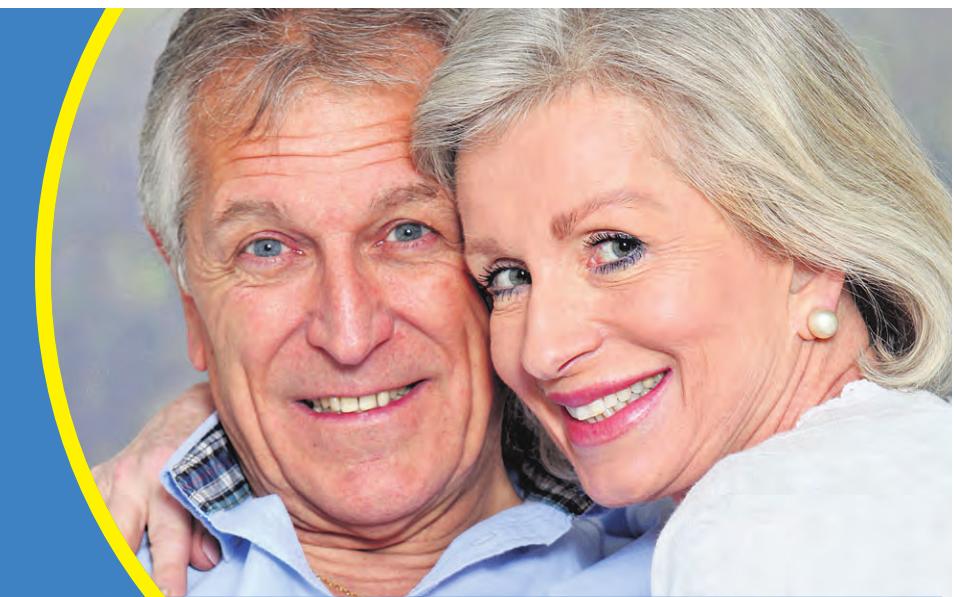
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Over 75s will have to pay TV licences

PENSIONERS over 75 in Sefton and West Lancashire will have to start paying for a TV licence after the controversial plan was confirmed by the BBC.

It was revealed on Thursday, July 9 that free TV licences for most over 75s would be scrapped from August 1.

The proposal was first discussed earlier this year, but there has been a two-month delay because of the coronavirus pandemic. Some

had hoped the BBC would perform a U-turn in light of the pandemic, but they are pressing ahead with the plan.

It means more than three million households will be asked to start paying the £157.50 fee.

Only households where someone receives the Pension Credit benefit will still be eligible for a free licence.

The BBC say the cost of continuing to provide free licences to all over-75s could have

reached £1 billion a year over time with an ageing population, according to the corporation.

Free TV licences for the over-75s have been provided by the government since 2000, but responsibility for the provision was passed to the BBC as part of its last licence fee settlement. TV Licensing will write to all licence holders aged over 75 with clear guidance about how to pay.

Parents and carers needed to help plan summer activities for children with special needs

PARENTS and carers are being asked to complete a short survey about a service for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities across Lancashire.

The questionnaire will give them the chance to share their views on summer activities provided through the Lancashire Break Time Service.

Participants have until Friday, July 17 to complete the online form. This survey will help Lancashire County Council chiefs to plan summer activities while making sure that social distancing measures are in place to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

The measures will include each group session having a maximum of six children at any one time and the sessions being shorter than usual.

County Councillor Phillipa Williamson, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "It is vital we continue to offer our

Lancashire Break Time summer service, which provides fun activities for children with special educational needs and disabilities, despite the coronavirus.

"These activities allow parents and carers the important opportunity to take a short break from their caring role.

"This year due to coronavirus, the way the activities are offered and delivered will be changed to meet Government guidance.

"This short survey will allow us to plan our summer activities effectively to ensure everyone who wants to use them can access them easily and safely.

"It will also help us to ensure social distancing measures are in place to help prevent the spread of coronavirus in our community."

To complete the survey visit: <https://is.gd/vHjits>



County Councillor Phillipa Williamson

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Council backs decision to continue free meals for pupils during summer

Report by Tom Martin

SOME families in West Lancashire will now receive free school meal vouchers during the school summer holidays - a decision backed by Lancashire County Council.

This follows the launch of the government's 'Covid Summer Food Fund' to support children who usually receive benefits-related free school meals.

It comes after Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford put pressure on Boris Johnson to reverse a controversial decision to scrap the policy.

The Premier League star raised awareness of the government's stance on social media and it resulted in a U-turn and a new £120million "Covid Summer Food Fund" for 1.3 million pupils in England.

Through the fund, schools can support eligible pupils with a £90 voucher to cover the standard six-week holiday period, or £105 if the summer holiday lasts seven full weeks.

This is an extension of the Free School Meals national voucher scheme and will support children who usually receive benefits-related free school meals.

Councillor Phillipa Williamson, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "This is a really difficult time for many people right now but especially so for some families who, through no fault of their own, are finding it hard to make ends meet."

"I welcome this news from the government as it means that some eligible families will continue to receive support whilst the schools are closed for the summer."

"The vouchers will help to alleviate some of the



Marcus Rashford (left) forced Boris Johnson into a U-turn

financial pressures that many families are facing as a result of the pandemic. Unfortunately, the summer holidays are a time when some children are not able to have a healthy and nutritious free school meal and so these vouchers are all the more important as families continue to move into what will be the new normal way of living."

If a family is eligible for free school meals, their school will be in touch with them about the voucher scheme.

Parents who think their family is newly eligible should contact their school as soon as possible.

Vouchers must be ordered by schools through the Edenred portal at least one week before the end of term and it will be issued to the family within seven days unless the school has specified a different distribution date.

Parents will be issued with an eGift card which can be used to buy food at a range of supermarkets. Similar to the term-time voucher scheme, the vouchers can be used at Aldi, Asda, M&S, McColl's, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Waitrose, Company Shop Group and Iceland, including The Food Warehouse Stores, have been recently added to the list.

Schools can also make alternative arrangements for a family to use another supermarket, if this is necessary.

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LETTERS to the Editor

Send your letters via email to:
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Resort was a disgrace

My wife and I went to Southport on a recent Sunday afternoon - the day after lockdown.

What a disgrace to the human race... Eastbank Street with drunks in shop doorways lying on the floor and as for Neville Street

- what a disgrace! It was full of chip papers blowing across the road and tin cans rolling along the pavement and road.

Welcome back to reality!

David & Lynn Burscough

Sickened by misguided loyalties of football fans

Football extremism has proven, yet again, that we truly live in an inverse world.

It will never cease to amaze me as to the extreme kudos and adulation given to football clubs/corporations, given the far more important issues that we face as a global community.

Regardless of the unwarranted and obscene spectacles in Liverpool city centre recently, as an activist and someone with correctly placed moral priorities in terms of social justice, equality and the environment, I would like to ask these over-enthusiastic extremists as to where they are when, for instance, a group of parents last year fighting for the rights of disabled children can only muster a handful of protestors, yet these misguided folk can turn out in their droves for a football celebration?

Hardly life-changing?

I am sickened at times by the apathy, misguided and misdirected priorities of certain members of our society.

Reality check, folks... it's only a game.

Redirect your passion towards the real challenges facing your families and humanity.

Stop-think and ask yourselves as to what is more important? You, your family and friends, love, peace, fairness, equality and tolerance... or groups of players who don't even know who you are?

J. Mackie, Maghull.

If you have a letter for the Champion, email it to editor@champnews.com. Please include your name, address (although not necessarily for publication) and keep your correspondence to a maximum of 350 words.

Concerns raised over Lordsgate Lane work

Since late February - early March, the residents of Lordsgate Lane, Burscough have suffered disruption, noise and dust from the installation of a new electricity supply line for a business park being developed by Crompton Developments, the contractors working on their behalf being UK Power Solutions!

During this period, apart from the aforementioned problems, residents have also been subjected to rats being disturbed due to the work, inaccessible driveways and some problems from the contractors operatives. It has all been compounded by the lockdown and the fact that the majority of people in the area were at home during working hours.

Concern has been raised on two counts with West Lancs Borough Council:-

1. The rat problem. The Environmental Health Department denied any responsibility and referred concerns to

Burscough Town Council?

2. I approached the four Burscough Borough Councillors to investigate why this supply line had been routed through a residential area and only one responded. The answer was, again, that it is not WLBC's responsibility but that of Lancashire County Highways.

If that is the case then our County Councillor, who is also a Borough Councillor and a planning committee member, should have been aware of the problem but appears to have done nothing about it.

So, we have the old problem of 'passing the buck' on a situation through which residents have suffered four months of torment, with absolutely no benefit to themselves, due to what is possibly an agreed route within the planning consent for the Business Park Development.

Cllr.Brian Bailey,
West Lancashire

Town's MotorFest brings enjoyment to people...

Mr George's views of the Ormskirk Motor Fest are amusing and I am sure written tongue in cheek.

Ownership of classic cars, motorcycles and other vehicles generate over £5.5 billion, employs 34,000-plus people, and brings enjoyment to virtually everyone as they view a piece of history relevant to their lifetime.

The data quoted is from an FBHVC 2016 survey - another is presently under way.

Martin Pagett, Ormskirk

Cancer has not stopped for virus

Every day, children and young people hear the devastating news they have cancer.

As a services manager for CLIC Sargent, the UK's leading charity for under 25's with cancer, my team of social workers are there to support those young people and their families living with cancer across Merseyside.

However, due to the coronavirus crisis, the future of our charity and our ability to continue to be there for families is uncertain. We provide front-line services alongside the NHS in every children's and young people's principal treatment centre across the UK. This includes emotional and practical support, a place to stay near hospitals for families travelling for treatment and vital financial support and grants.

After seeing a 60 per cent drop in income during the pandemic, CLIC Sargent urgently need financial support from the Government. You can help by asking

your MP to sign an open letter backing our call. CLIC Sargent have put together information about how people can contact their MP for those who wish to help at www.clicsargent.org.uk/email-your-mp.

Cancer has not stopped for coronavirus. No child, young person or family should have to face cancer alone.

Liz Morrey,
CLIC Sargent Service Manager, North West

Do your bit and wear a mask!

In response to Otis Saroke's letter in the Champion, it is important to state that wearing masks is NOT detrimental to the immune system.

There is also no evidence to support the idea that cloth and surgical masks lead to breathing problems. They do not fit tightly enough to impede airflow or trap carbon dioxide when sitting on a bus or train.

The wearing of facemasks by the general public is for consideration of others when at close quarters in a confined space.

If you wear a facemask, you reduce the number of droplets that

you expel into the air that may contain the covid-19 virus, that other people may then inhale.

Some people may feel increased stress when wearing a mask, as it is not a 'normal' thing to do. Increased stress can adversely affect your health, not the mask itself.

This stress should reduce as you become used to wearing it. You may even find that your stress reduces, as it is good to know you are doing your bit to protect others.

KC, Crosby

Concerns over safety of Fiveways Junction taken to government

Confusing road layout and reckless driving has helped create an 'accident hotspot'

Report by Danielle Thompson



The Fiveways junction on County Road

WEST Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper has taken her calls for Fiveways Junction to be given safety improvements to the Home Secretary.

Last week, the Champion reported how MP Cooper had urged Lancashire County Council to address the issue after claims that a confusing road layout and reckless driving at the County Road junction was causing it to become an accident hotspot.

After another recent road traffic collision at the junction, MP Cooper wrote to both Lancashire Constabulary and Lancashire County Council urging immediate safety improvements.

Lancashire Constabulary confirmed to Ms Cooper that they were progressing with some intervention, but progress had stalled while waiting for 'Home Office Type Approval'.

She has therefore taken the issue up with Home Secretary Priti Patel, seeking urgent

assistance to speed up the process. MP Cooper said: "Having received the response from Lancashire Constabulary confirming to me that they were experiencing a delay in receiving Home Office Type Approval for a non-invasive solution to safety issues at the Fiveways Junction, I immediately wrote to the Home Secretary asking that she move this on."

"The police are keen to install a system at this junction to deal with offences of excessive speed and drivers ignoring the traffic lights, and I believe enforcement cameras would serve as a helpful deterrent."

"For too long we have witnessed crash after crash, injuries and lives lost at junctions on County Road. Enough! I will continue to campaign for road safety improvements at this junction and on this stretch of County Road."

Appeal launched to find foster parents to look after vulnerable children

PEOPLE in West Lancashire who could change a local child's or young person's life and foster with Lancashire County Council are being urged to come forward.

The demand for foster carers has remained high during the coronavirus pandemic and the council still needs to find around 20 places every week for the children and young people it cares for.

People are being asked to consider whether a change in their circumstances caused by the current situation could leave them well placed to provide a loving home for a vulnerable young person.

The county council is also urging anyone who has fostered with them in the past to think about coming forward to offer the benefit of their experience.

It is hoped that foster carers who are currently taking a break from fostering and retired foster carers will also come forward as they already have the skills and know how important fostering is for a local child's life.

County Councillor Philippa Williamson, cabinet member for children, young people, and schools, said: "The coronavirus situation has caused disruption to many of our services, but we're still taking on new foster carers, and need their support just as much as ever."

Foster carers could be asked to care for children and young people across a wide age range, from birth to 18-years-old. There's a particular need for foster carers who could support an older child or teen-

ager who need a safe and secure home environment through the current crisis.

There is an allowance for both new and experienced foster carers, who can expect to receive between £250 and £428 per week for each child they care for.

New foster carers will also receive specialised training and any necessary support from a team of psychologists and emotional health workers.

Lancashire County Council welcomes new foster carers from all different backgrounds.

Foster carers need to be over 21 and have a spare room available by the end of the assessment process.

To find out more visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering or call our team on 0300 123 6723.

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CCTV images released by Merseyside Police following disturbances in Liverpool city centre

Police issue CCTV images after trouble in city centre marred club celebrations

CCTV images of 12 men and one woman have been issued by police following the mass gathering of Liverpool fans at the Pier Head last month.

On Friday, June 26, several thousand people celebrated the club winning the Premier League title, but there were a number of reported assaults, criminal damage and drug offences.

The CCTV pictures show various people who were in the area of Victoria Street at around 2.30am on Saturday, June 27, following the initial gathering.

If you have information, you can email: Operation.Precinct@merseyside.police.uk or do it anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Detective Chief Inspector Cheryl Rhodes said: "Our dedicated team continues to investigate in detail the disgraceful scenes which happened in Liverpool city centre.

"We're looking for a minority of people intent on committing crime and anti-social behaviour, whose

actions marred the good nature of the majority.

"Extensive enquiries continue and we'll keep issuing images and appeals to identify suspects and witnesses as we work our way through the evidence available to us.

"These particular people were in and around Victoria Street later on in the night after the initial Pierhead celebrations.

"At this location, incidents of disorder occurred, during which items were thrown and injuries were caused to officers, and damage to vehicles. They may have important information to assist us."

● The Champion reported how Matthew Egglesden, 19, whose address was given as Turning Lane, Scarisbrick, Southport was arrested after footage appeared on social media which appeared to show a firework being directed towards the Liver Building. He is due to appear at Liverpool Crown Court on July 27.

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Out&About with the Champion

New layout at Ormskirk Market

ORMSKIRK Market may look a little different when you come to visit next, as West Lancs Borough Council chiefs are trialling a new layout of the stalls.

This will help give extra space to support the many pavement cafes which are now opening.

They said: "We're trying out a new layout on Aughton Street where the market stalls will be back-to-back down the middle of the street to leave plenty of space on both sides for you to browse your favourite market traders safely. We have also moved some of the planters on Aughton Street to make more space to help you socially distance.

"On Moor Street, the Market will remain the



Ormskirk Market

same with just one row of stalls down the middle of the street, as it has done since we re-opened three weeks ago.

"It's been wonderful having the Market back and welcoming shoppers back to the town centre. "We are delighted to be able to support a safer shopping environment with our local traders and by making these changes provide an even better, and safer, visitor experience for you to visit."

Charity develops online sessions to help children

THE team at Rainbow Hub have developed online virtual service sessions to help their vulnerable children.

The coronavirus has had a huge impact on the Mawdesley hub and the vulnerable children with physical and neurological disabilities they support and their families.

But, although the charity had to close its building they did not give up on the children.

They set up online videos, one to one virtual sessions and advice for parents so that the children can maintain some of the therapies at home that make such a difference to their lives by keeping movement going using conductive education therapy.

They have now started a new communication group where one of the team members will read stories, teach sign lan-

guage and encourage participation using a variety of different methods.

Joanne Ashcroft, Head of Conductive Education services, Rainbow Hub, said: "Covid-19 has had a huge impact on us all, especially the children and families that normally come to Rainbow Hub.

"Here at Rainbow Hub we're doing all we can to support them and their families through this difficult time and we've been hosting our virtual sessions.

"It's been fantastic to see the children and families adapt to this new way of working. We are so proud of them all but we can't wait for all this to be over so we can see all their gorgeous faces back at Rainbow Hub."

For more information, go to the website: www.rainbowhubnw.org

Community centre gets £15k boost for redevelopment

THE Trustees of Hesketh Bank Community Centre are 'jumping for joy' after successfully securing £15,000 from the Bernard Sunley Foundation for their redevelopment plans.

The Foundation was established in 1960 by the property developer Bernard Sunley, who was an entrepreneur and

pioneer in the post-war reconstruction of Britain.

The Chairman of Hesketh Bank Community Centre, Steve Kirby, said: "This is a blessing to us, as although we had secured the funds to start the project additional costs have meant that we were going to have to look at cutting

back, which we didn't want to have to do. Now we can move ahead as planned and deliver a new hall for the benefit of our community".

The Trustees hope to be able to commence demolition of the existing building very soon and be up and running again in October.

More tennis is an ace idea!

A CAMPAIGN to see more people try out tennis has been backed by West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper.

The easing of lockdown restrictions has seen huge demand for tennis courts across the country in recent weeks, and now West Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper is lending her backing to Play Your Way, an LTA campaign aimed at inspiring the nation to pick up a racket and play tennis on their terms.

Following the events of the past few months, there couldn't be a better time to remind people how accessible tennis is and that it is open for business this summer.

MP Rosie Cooper said: "I'm supporting the Lawn Tennis Association's Play Your Way campaign and encouraging my West Lancashire constituents to pick up a racket this summer at a local tennis court.

"Tennis is a fantastic way of staying active with friends whilst remaining socially distant, is a great sport for all ages and one you can enjoy at local park courts."



Play Your Way is an invitation to anyone to try out tennis

Scott Lloyd, Chief Executive of the LTA added: "Despite what some people may think, tennis can be noisy and fun, the kit isn't all-white and you don't even have to play on a real court.

"It's a fun, engaging sport, but we know that not everyone always feels that it's a sport for them.

"We want people to feel they can pick up a tennis racket and ball and have a go anywhere, no matter what their experience or understanding of the game."

Student service to help young people start uni is extended

A PROGRAMME to help more young people in West Lancashire start university has been handed a funding boost after being renewed until July 2021.

Future U, which works to increase the numbers of young people in Lancashire attending higher education, has been extended for the next academic year, following an approval of funding by the Office for Students.

The £60m Uni Connect programme supports 29 different projects like Future U all across the UK to help young people in school years 9 to 13 access higher education.

The programme works alongside the county's four universities and 10 colleges throughout Lancashire, including West Lancashire College and Edge Hill University.

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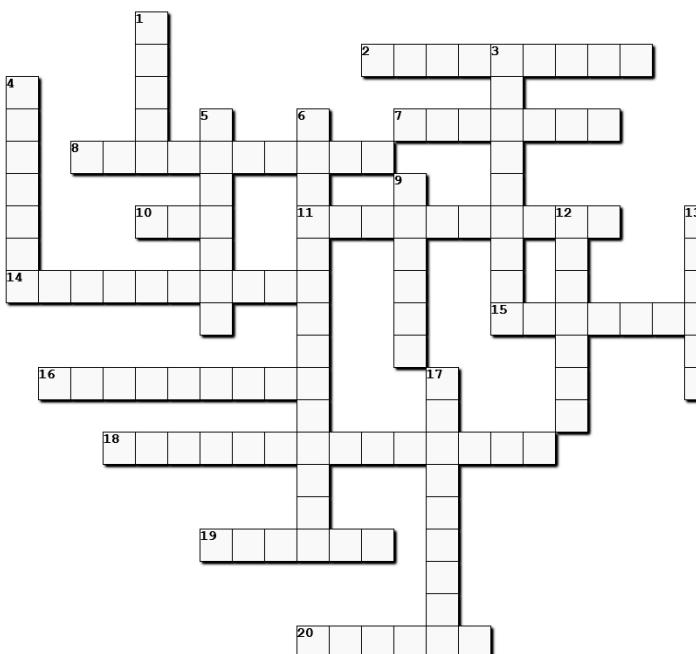
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12 Cane. 13 Jovial. 16 Reach. 17 Sergeant. 18 Railway. 19 Plaster
Down: 1 Scrutinise. 2 Podcast. 5 Silver Birch. 6 Cadbury's. 7 Concoction. 10 Gel.
14 Obey. 15 Elevate

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ACROSS:

2. Type of bread (9)
7. An academic degree (7)
8. An estate on which crops are grown (10)
10. A female swan (3)
11. A hospital doctor of senior rank (10)
14. A political party in America (10)
15. Remove or take out (7)
16. An area of open land (5,4)
18. French order of merit for military service (6,2,6)
19. A type of open-pit mine (6)
20. A team sport using sticks (6)

DOWN:

1. An alcoholic spirit of Russian origin (5)
3. A person who investigates crime (9)
4. A tool used for DIY (7)
5. A tool, container of other article (7)
6. System used to control temperature (3,11)
9. To help someone (6)
12. When two people get married (7)
13. A woman's formal greeting (6)
17. Used to hold a vehicle stationary (9)

Despicable thieves steal pathway of slabs from historic church grounds

Report by Tom Martin

AN HISTORIC church was targeted by low-life thieves who stole an entire pathway of expensive paving slabs.

The York stone were laid at Sefton Parish Church, located in Sefton Village, near Maghull.

The church is 850 years old and the only Grade I listed building in the entire borough.

Church officials were left shocked and appalled when they discovered that 45 large stones which formed a path around the church building, had been stolen. It is believed the York slabs were taken overnight, but how they were lifted from the ground and transported away remains a mystery.

Locals have speculated that it was a planned theft involving at least two people who would have needed a large vehicle in order to place the heavy stones in.

Merseyside Police have been informed and officers are now investigating the crime.

A group called Historic England Heritage Crime is also urging anyone with information to come forward. They work with partners and communities to protect England's most historic buildings from crime and anti-social behaviour.

Sefton Parish Church is dedicated to St Helen and has been a place of continuous Christian worship for more than 850 years.

The churchyard contains the war graves of 16



The stolen church slabs and (inset) Sefton Parish Church

service personnel, ten of World War One and six of World War Two.

People have hit out at those responsible for the theft on social media. One person fumed: "This is appalling. It must have taken them hours so surely someone would have heard something or noticed something going on?"

Another said: "I can't believe anyone would want to desecrate something that old and beautiful. Absolutely appalling."

While another added: "That's where I was married."

"This church is so old it's listed in the doomsday book 1066. It's tragic."

Anyone with information can DM @MerPolCC or call 101 or contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

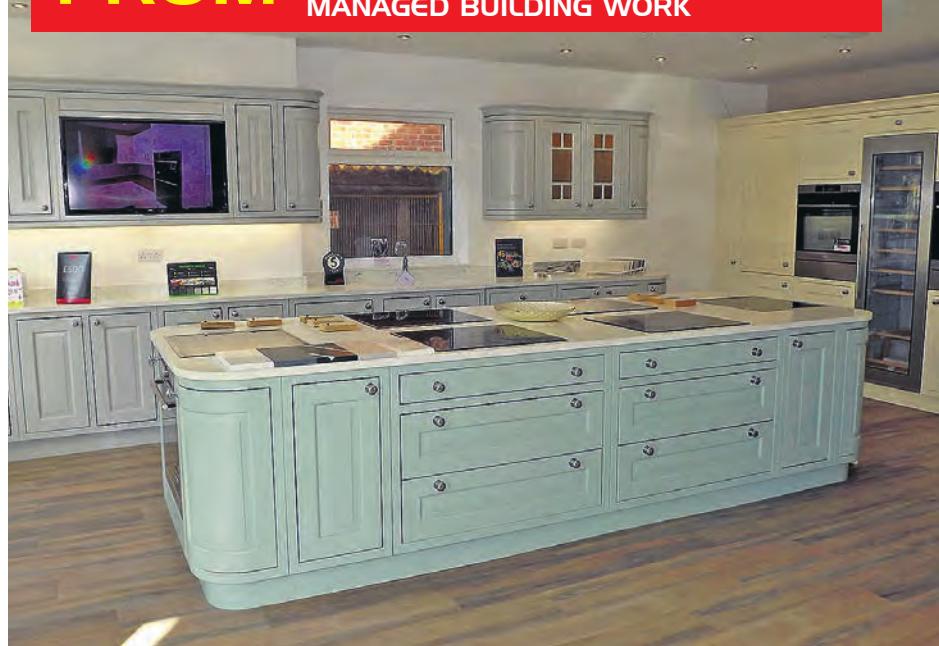
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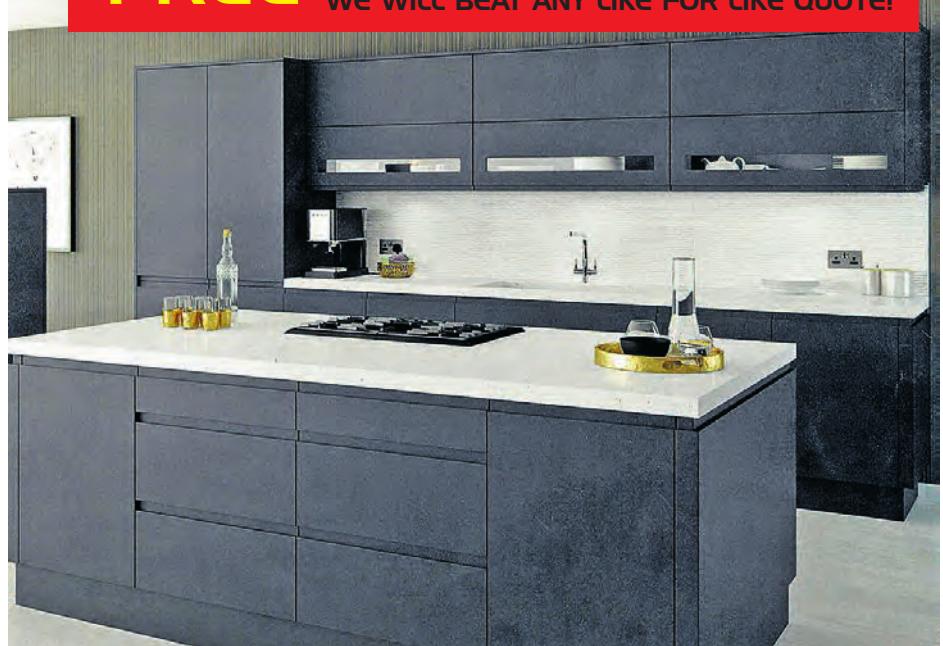
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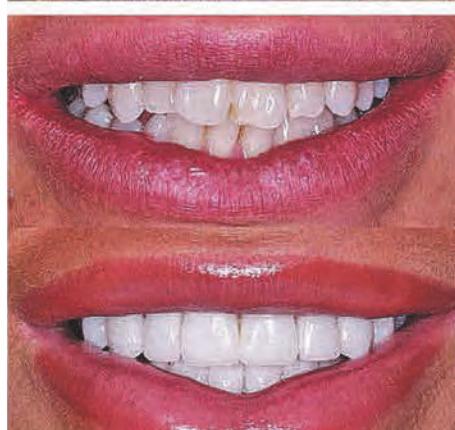
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Home & Garden Improvement Guide

Over half of Brits are prioritising plans to update their home as COVID-19 restrictions continue to be eased in the UK, with one in eight expecting to spend money on improvements within the next six months.

According to recent research, 55% of UK adults are prioritising home improvement plans, with around a quarter intending to redecorate inside or tidy the garden, and one in eight focused on improving the outside appearance of their home.

Whilst there are some who have suffered financially as a result of the lockdown, many of those surveyed (62%) say they feel wealthier than usual as a result of saving money during lockdown on things like

socialising, commuting and going on holiday. One in three say they are likely to spend this extra money on home improvements.

From replacing windows and doors, through to larger projects such as loft conversions, kitchen and bathroom renovations and large scale extensions; home improvements, when carried out correctly and to a good standard, these can not only transform your living space, but can also add value to your home.

So before you start knocking through walls and tearing down ceilings, have a read through our handy guide to home and garden improvements.



Bathrooms

Whether you are completely renovating a bathroom or simply making some improvements, it is vital that you choose the bathroom suite to best suit the available space.

It is also important to think about the size of the suite within the room, and the functionality of the suite; would you like to install eco-friendly features or do you have any special access requirements? Once you've decided on what to prioritise between practicality and design – or an attempt to achieve both – you can start browsing the vast collection of suites available.

There are many bathroom suites specifically designed for smaller bathrooms or oddly shaped rooms. With limited space, it is vital to design a floor plan and ensure your favourite suite will be able to be installed

comfortably. In larger bathrooms you can make the most of the space with a large, free standing bath which neatly matches the rest of the suite, or maybe you will look to install a shower enclosure. No matter what the shape, size or style of your bathroom, there are a wide variety of shower enclosures out there. From those that will fit the smallest of bathroom spaces, to lavish walk in showers which can become the main attraction in your bathroom.

If you want your bathroom to stand out on looks whilst adding an opulent look, then add some stylish tiles to your bathroom. By adding some colour with your chosen tiles to a plain bathroom suite you can really create a dramatic look for your bathroom. Keep your bathroom on trend with the latest colours and styles whether you are going for a traditional or modern look.

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Fires and Fireplaces

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Fireplaces were once a mainstay in every home, a central feature and the essential source of heat in the room. They then took a bit of a backseat, yet recently, they have been heading for a resurgence, not least because of the value one can add to your home.

The appeal of real fire has increased a lot in recent times. Thoughts of warmth and a cosy glow has prompted many folk to relocate their huge flat screen TVs and install / construct a fireplace, or restore what was already there.

The warmth a real fire creates naturally means you can reduce use of your central heating,

which leads to cost savings. Heating just the room you are using will make savings over the long term, and remember, heat rises so you may find it sufficiently heats the upstairs too, if you remember to keep all of your doors open. Newer technology also means that real fires can be installed in properties that would previously have been deemed inappropriate, such as terraced housing.

When it comes to choosing between real or gas, it's a simple question of preference. There is no doubt the convenience of simply being able to push a button and have instant heat and the look of a fire, as opposed to having to wait for an age for the heat, and then having to wait again until it has gone out before you go up to bed.

When it comes to adding value to your home, you want to also combine aesthetics into the mix. You wouldn't buy any old wood burner simply because you might wish to sell your home in the next decade; it's something you'll have to look at every day and use.

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Gardening through the Summer Months

One of the problems the summer weather brings in its wake is a tendency for tall and not-so-tall plants to bolt. Just a light sprinkling of rain will do it. One minute you've a well ordered garden with border plants arranged in descending order from the back, the next, and you have an untidy wilderness of giants bending under their own weight. Have plenty of stakes to hand so you can tie them up before they fall down.

Bedding plants will greatly benefit from a feed of weak liquid manure around the middle of the month. Hardy annuals will also need attention, water, feed and a brisk hoeing will suit them. If the weather is dry you will need to water the rock garden, vegetable garden and the lawn, and you should mulch like mad all over. Leave the grass cuttings on the lawn after mowing as this also prevents rapid evaporation of moisture. Don't be taken in by lots of heavy rain, judge the dampness of the weather or otherwise by examining the soil, because in summer especially, rain can evaporate faster than it takes to soak the ground, even after a torrential downpour.

If you are growing sweet peas avoid feeding them during this month. Too rich a soil will result in

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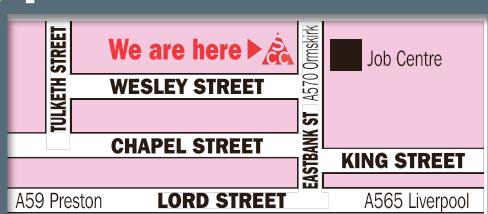
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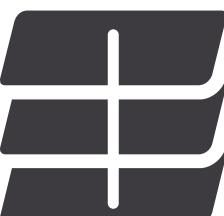
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As well as being the envy of your neighbours, shutters have many other great benefits. While they are considered a luxury product in terms of quality and finish, they provide excellent value as they often come with a long, or even lifetime guarantee so you won't have to worry about renewing or replacing them which is common with more conventional blinds.

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The other more obvious benefits to Plantation shutters are their ability to give you total control over light and privacy by way of tilting panels. Shutters are a great solution for street



facing properties as you are able to retain your privacy whilst at home. The tilting panels mean you can let the light in, yet keep unwelcome attention out. They help to repel harmful UV light and can keep you cool in the summer and warm in the winter with great insulating properties comparative to installing secondary glazing.

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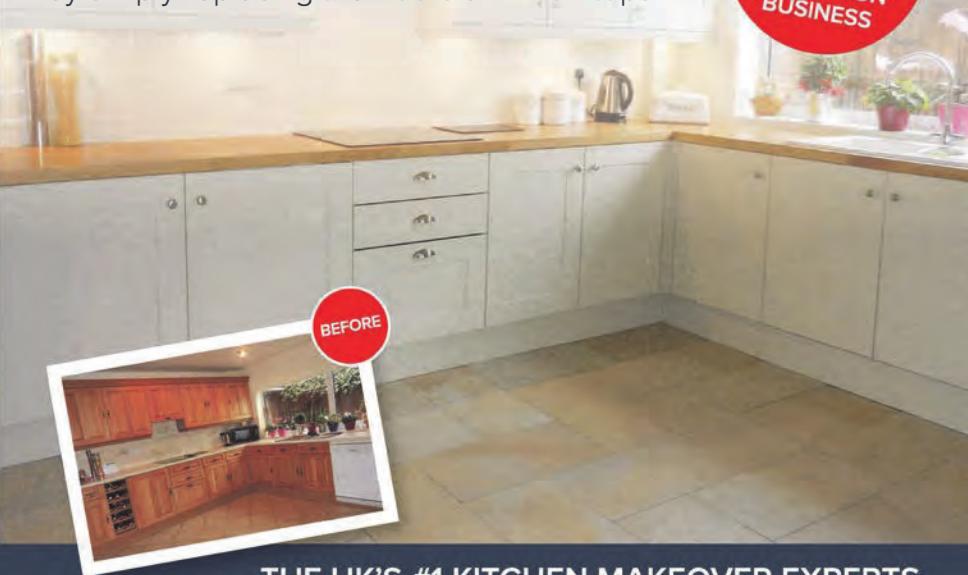
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Decorating



Whether you're refreshing your home with a lick of paint or creating a feature wall with wallpaper, there are an abundance of different colours, patterns and design ideas for you to consider when you're thinking of taking on your next project.

PAINTING

When it comes to redecorating your home, a fresh coat of paint is one of the quickest and most cost effective ways to freshen



up a tired looking room. There are a great selection of different paints available now to help you create a home you will love, available in a range of exciting colours that will enable you to create whatever mood or feeling you want for each room.

Pick your paint

The colour of your walls has a huge impact on the overall look and feel of a room. But here's a tip, don't pick the paint colour first. It is much easier to choose a paint colour that goes with your furniture and décor than it is to choose décor and furniture to go with a paint colour.

Start with an inspiration

Pinterest is a great place to start when deciding on paint colours. Make a board for each room and start pinning rooms that catch your eye. Once you have about 10, you'll get a feel for what you are drawn to in terms of colour and style.

Stick with neutrals

We're not saying avoid colour all together. Colour is good, but you have to first decide where you want the attention in a room to go. If your answer

is the walls, then go bold. And if you go bold on the walls then everything else in the room should be pretty neutral so that you don't end up with too many things competing. This is why bold colour in a bathroom can work so well because almost everything else in the room is already neutral (white)

Use testers

Buy testers in a few different colours / shades and paint a large enough area on a few of your walls so that you can see how the light hits it at different times of the day.

Almost all of the brands now have testers available. It is well worth spending the money to buy a few of these before committing to the colour. Plus leftover samples are great for touching up and for other small painting projects.

Test your paint colours against furniture and fabrics

Don't only test your colours on the wall. Instead, paint a piece of poster board and hold it up against your sofa and other furniture that will go in the room. You don't necessarily want to match, but you do want the undertones to go nicely.

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DEATHS

SUTCLIFFE
EDWARD
(TED)

3rd July 2020

Aged 91 years

Peacefully at home with his family by his side. Dearly loved Husband of Doreen. Much loved Father to Jennifer and Kay. A very special Grandad to Mark, Carl, Stephanie, Natalie and a loving Great Grandad to Joshua, Harry, Guy and Clark. Ted will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. A true gentleman! Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 17th July at 10:00am. Flowers welcome. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

BOOTH
JOHN

8th July 2020

Aged 87 years

Peacefully at Springfield Court Nursing Home. Dearly loved Brother to Joyce, Sandra, Clifford and Jimmy. Devoted Father to Jean and Andrew. Much loved Father-in-law to John and Angie. Loving Grandad to Kevin, Laura, Rebecca, Oliver, Chelsea and Great Grandad to Abigail, Charlotte, Logan and Bexley. Now reunited with his loving Wife Win and Grandson Adam. John will be sadly missed by all his family and friends and all who knew him. Service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 21st July at 12 noon. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

HESKETH
KENNETH
JAMES
(KEN)

7th July 2020

Aged 83 Years

Dearly loved Husband of Tania and wonderful Dad to Catherine, Virginia and John. Father-in-law to Brough, Steve, Jocelyn and Brother-in-law to Sonia and Peter. Much loved Grandad to Teddie, Brooke, Cameron, Stuart and Ben. Ken will be greatly missed by all his family and friends and all who knew him. Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP on Monday 20th July at 2:00pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations to Parkinson's UK. Special thanks to Alcedo Care and the NHS. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

IN MEMORIAM

LEE
RON

19th July 2011

My beloved Ron left us with beautiful memories and your lovely smile.

Goodnight Sweetheart
Mary, Sons, Grandchildren and all his loving family

XXXXXX

LAUCHLAN
9th July 1967

My beloved twin Brother
Never forgotten by all his loving family

XXXXXX



To place a family announcement please call 01704 392392

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**DEATHS**

HOLLOWAY
VIOLET

On behalf of my Mum Violet who sadly passed

I would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their wishes and support. A special thank you to Jamie and Amanda. I would also like to thank Dovehaven Care Home, Southport Hospital and Queenscourt Hospice. Also sending a heart full of gratitude to David Wilkinson of the funeral directors in Tarleton, who I couldn't have done without all of his help, and also to Peter who took the service.

Love Linda

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For further information and a general chat please contact Mike on 07787 564617



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PUBLIC NOTICES

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(C163 LEES LANE, DALTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of C163 Lees Lane, Dalton from C161 Higher Lane, Parbold for a distance of 300m in a South Easterly direction.

2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.

3. The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on Monday 27th July 2020 until 1530 hours on Monday 10th August 2020 or until completion of the works within this period.

4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: C161 Higher Lane, Parbold – C161 Beacon Lane, Parbold – C161 Mill Lane, Parbold – C161 Mill Lane, Beacon Park – C161 Mill Lane, Up Holland – A577 Dingle Road, Up Holland – C162 College Road, Up Holland – C162 Stoney Brow, Up Holland – C162 Roby Mill, Up Holland – C162 Bank Brow, Up Holland – C163 Lees Lane, Roby Mill – C163 Lees Lane, Dalton and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow scaffolding to be placed in the carriageway as part of gable end replacement works to be carried out by Platinum Traffic Management.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Peter Bell, Regulation and Enforcement Manager, Highways and Transport, 0300 123 6780 [Ref: HRIT/22939/EW]

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Friday 10th July 2020

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£1,500 = 103116 £100 = 137751

Winners of £20 are as follows:

16049	175391
66067	14139
88127	19299
23283	26867
27887	15631
242212	142289
13677	28549
82881	361469
22041	29843
317705	15409

PUBLIC NOTICES

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2020/0516/FUL Conversion of Old Gore Barn into a single dwelling at Barn Opposite Old Gore House Farm, Altcar Lane, Great Altcar. The application affects a Listed Building.

2020/0527/OUT Outline application for the erection of 37 dwellings including details of access, layout and scale. All other matters reserved at Land To The East Of, Boundary Lane, Hesketh Bank. This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.

2020/0534/FUL Change of use of flat above shops to 4 bedroom student HMO at Coral, 17 Aughton Street, Ormskirk. The application affects a Conservation Area.

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.west lancs.gov.uk/planning. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or writing to Development, Heritage & Environment Manager, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development

If an appeal is made against a decision to refuse to grant planning permission, and that appeal proceeds under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

How information about you will be used

Personal data provided by you will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties. Some of this information, including your name and address, will be published. Further information about this is available online at www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning and hard copies are available on request.

Heidi McDougall BSc (Hons), MBA Dated: 15th July 2020

Corporate Director of Place & Community PDNOT/1095

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

(BESCAR LANE, SCARISBRICK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Bescar Lane, Scarisbrick from Perch Pool Lane, Scarisbrick for a distance of 35m in a South Westerly direction.

2. Nothing in this order shall apply to persons engaged in the carrying out of the works.

3. The prohibition will be operative from 0005 hours until 0530 hours on Wednesday 22nd July 2020 or until completion of the works within this period.

4. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: C161 Higher Lane, Parbold – C161 Beacon Lane, Parbold – C161 Mill Lane, Parbold – C161 Mill Lane, Beacon Park – C161 Mill Lane, Up Holland – A577 Dingle Road, Up Holland – C162 College Road, Up Holland – C162 Stoney Brow, Up Holland – C162 Roby Mill, Up Holland – C162 Bank Brow, Up Holland – C163 Lees Lane, Roby Mill – C163 Lees Lane, Dalton and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow scaffolding to be placed in the carriageway as part of gable end replacement works to be carried out by Platinum Traffic Management.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Peter Bell, Regulation and Enforcement Manager, Highways and Transport, 0300 123 6780 [Ref: HRIT/22075/EW]

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* ASTRA 1.4 TURBO SRI AUTO 5 DR 18 REG 12,000 miles in macadamia metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, alloys, aircon - cruise - FSH.....	£11,995	
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* VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI CDTI NAV VX-LINE 5 DR 67 REG 21,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, alloys, DAB radio, cruise, aircon - FSH.....	£11,695	
VAUXHALL CORSA		
* VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE NAV 5 DR 69 REG 7,000 miles in Persian blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, heated windscreens, aircon	£10,995	
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* CORSA 1.4 SE NAV AUTO 5 DR 68 REG 13,000 miles in lava red, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreens, aircon	£10,895	
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* VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 1.4 SRI TURBO 5 DR 17 REG 17,000 miles in white, front and rear park assist, IntelliLink, alloys, A/C, cruise, FSH, 12 months MOT, bluetooth	£11,295	
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* ADAM 1.2 GLAM 3 DR 17 REG 4000 miles in blue metallic, alloys, Bluetooth, DAB Radio, cruise.....	DUE IN £8,495	
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* AUDI Q3 1.4T FSI 150 SPORT S TRONIC AUTO 5 DR 17 REG 16,000 miles in grey metallic, alloys, climate, cruise, DAB radio, Bluetooth, SAT NAV, rear park assist - FSH	£18,195	
* VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI 150 SE BLUEMOTION 5 DR 17 REG 15,000 miles in red spice metallic, alloys, climate, Bluetooth, DAB radio, cruise, rear park assist - FSH with VW	£16,895	
* BMW X1 2.0 18d XLINE XDRIVE 5 DR 66 REG 27,000 miles in snow white metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, DAB radio, full black leather, heated front seats, rear park assist - FSH.....	£16,795	
* VW GOLF 1.5 SE NAV TSI 5 DR 68 REG 8,000 miles in tornado red, SAT NAV, alloys, cruise, aircon, front & rear park assist, spare wheel - balance of 3 yr VW warranty	£15,995	
* HYUNDAI KONA 1.0 PREMIUM T-GDI 120 5 DR 69 REG 10,000 miles in tangerine comet metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, rear park assist & camera, alloys, climate, DAB radio, Android/Apple CarPlay, balance of 5 year Hyundai warranty	£15,895	
* FORD KUGA 1.5T ZETEC ECOBOOST 150 5 DR 69 REG with APPEARANCE PACK, 8,000 miles in Magnetic Grey Metallic, SAT NAV, alloys, Bluetooth, cruise, A/C, heated windscreens - Balance of 3 years Ford Warranty	£15,695	

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* HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 SE NAV 5 DR 18 REG 8,000 miles in inca beach metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, DAB radio, alloys, heated front seats, reverse camera - balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty £15,395 |

* AUDI A4 1.4 SE TFSI 4 DR 67 REG 17,000 miles in white, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, climate, front & rear park assist, FSH & balance of 3 yr Audi warranty £14,295 |

* HYUNDAI KONA 1.0 SE T-GDI 120 5 DR 69 REG 8,000 miles in acid yellow, alloys, Bluetooth, DAB radio, Android/Apple CarPlay, rear park assist & camera, aircon, cruise, balance of 5 year Hyundai warranty £13,995 |

* HYUNDAI i30 1.0 SE NAV T-GDI BLUEDRIVE 120 5 50R 69 REG 9,000 miles in stellar blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, cruise, DAB radio, Android/Apple CarPlay, rear park assist & camera, balance of 5 year Hyundai warranty £13,750 |

* NISSAN JUKE 1.6 BOSE PERSONAL EDITION XTRON AUTO 5 DR 19 REG 9,000 miles in gun grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, reverse camera, DAB radio, privacy glass, balance of 3 year Nissan warranty £13,650 |

* SKODA YETI 1.2 TSI 110 SE DRIVE DSG AUTO 5 DR 17 REG 17,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, cruise, climate, alloys, Front and Rear Park Assist, heated front seats - FSH £13,650 |

* PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 ALLURE PREMIUM 5 DR 19 REG just 700 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, panoramic roof, cruise, DAB radio, rear park assist & camera - balance of 3 yr Peugeot warranty £13,295 |

* RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 ICONIC TCE 90 5 DR 69 REG 4,000 miles in ocean blue metallic with black roof, SAT NAV, rear park assist, alloys, climate, cruise - balance of 3 yr Renault warranty £12,750 |

* HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 SE NAV CRDi 5 DR 66 REG 29,000 miles in grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise, heated front seats, rear park assist & camera - £30 road tax - FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty £12,150 |

* KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 GDI (PETROL) 5 DR 66 REG 14,000 miles in denim blue metallic, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise - FSH & balance of 7 yr Kia warranty £11,850 |

* HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 SE GDI BLUE DRIVE (PETROL) 5 DR 17 REG 30,000 miles in satin red metallic, alloys, Bluetooth, heated front seats, climate, cruise, DAB radio, rear park assist - FSH, balance of Hyundai 5 year warranty £11,850 |

* NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 ACENTA 5 DR 17 REG 16,000 miles in gun metal grey metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise, front & rear park assist - FSH £11,650 |

* TOYOTA YARIS 1.5 VVT-i ICON TECH 5 DR 19 REG 8,000 miles in chilli red, alloys, Bluetooth, SAT NAV, rear park assist & camera, cruise, DAB radio, aircon - balance of 5 yr Toyota warranty £11,495 |

* RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI DYNAMIQUE NAV 5 DR 66 REG 14,000 miles in cosmos blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise - FSH, £0 road tax & balance of 4 yr Renault warranty - BETTER & CHEAPER THAN A QASHQAI! £11,295 |

* RENAULT KADJAR 1.2 TCe DYNAMIQUE NAV 5 DR 66 REG 11,000 miles in mercury silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, cruise - FSH - BETTER & CHEAPER THAN A QASHQAI? Balance of 4 yr Renault warranty £11,150 |

* VW POLO 1.4 BLUE GT 5 DR 65 REG 46,000 miles in silver metallic, alloys, Bluetooth, DAB radio, cruise, sunroof, SAT NAV, front and rear park assist - £20 road tax, FSH with VW £8,995 |

* AUDI Q3 2.0 SE TDI 5 DR 63 REG 70,000 miles in silver, SAT NAV, alloys, Bluetooth, rear park assist - FSH & 12 months MOT £8,995 |

* FIAT 500 1.2 S 3 DR 19 REG 10,000 miles in pasodoble red, Bluetooth, alloys, Apple Carplay/Android Auto, aircon, cruise, rear park assist - balance of 3 yr Fiat warranty £8,995 |

* NISSAN PULSAR 1.2 TEKNA DIG-T 5 DR 15 REG 31,000 miles in silver metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, black leather, heated front seats, cruise, reverse camera - FSH, 12 months MOT & £30 road tax £7,850 |

* SEAT IBIZA 1.2 CONNECT TSI 5 DR 16 REG 31,000 miles in white, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, aircon, alloys - FSH, Jan MOT & £30 tax £7,495 |

* TOYOTA AURIS ICON 1.4 D-4D 5 DR 64 REG 53,000 miles in blue metallic, Bluetooth, A/C, DAB radio, alloys, rear parking camera - £20 road tax, 12 months MOT.. £6,795 |

* HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRDi BLUEDRIVE ESTATE 5 DR 65 REG 43,000 miles in white, alloys, bluetooth, aircon - £20 road tax, Hyundai service history £6,295 |

* TOYOTA YARIS 1.33 ICON + (SMART PACK) 5 DR 14 REG 33,000 miles in red, alloys, Bluetooth, reverse camera - June 21 MOT £6,295 |

* AUDI A3 TECHNIK 1.6 SPORTBACK 60 REG 58,000 miles in bright red, aircon, alloys - service history, just had cambelt and April MOT £5,195 |

* PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.6 HDi TEPEE OUTDOOR 5 DR 61 REG 44,000 miles in platinum metallic, alloys, cruise, spare wheel - supplied and serviced by ourselves, spotless £5,150 |

QUALITY PART EXCHANGES

* CORSA 1.4 SXI 5DR 12 REG 73,000 miles in silver lake metallic, alloys, aircon - FSH, supplied by ourselves, 12 months MOT and just serviced by us £3,395 |

* VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SE 5 DR 11 REG 92,000 miles in silver metallic, alloys - FSH, 12 months MOT £2,450 |

* AUDI A4 1.9 SE TDI 4 DR SALOON 07 REG 77,000 miles in silver metallic - April 2021 MOT and had Cambelt £2,495 |

* MAZDA 6 1.8 TS 4 SR 59 REG 81,000 miles in dark blue metallic £2,495 |

* CORSA 1.4 DESIGN 5 DR 57 REG 60,000 miles in silver lightning metallic, alloys £2,350 |

* CITROEN C1 1.0 VTR 3 DR 09 REG 83,000 miles in blue, remote locking, power windows - 12 months MOT, £20 road tax £2,250 |

* FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME 5 DR 04 REG 60,000 miles in black, alloys - June 21 MOT, tidy car £1,495 |

* VW POLO 1.2 TWIST 3 DR 04 REG 72,000 miles in silver metallic - nice clean car, 12 months MOT £1,395 |

* ASTRA 1.6 SXI 5 DR 07 REG 102,000 miles in silver metallic, alloys, 12 months MOT £995 |

SOME CARS STORED OFF SITE - PLEASE RING TO VIEW

VANS

* PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.6 BLUEHDI 100 PROFESSIONAL L2 LWB 950 19 REG 6,000 miles in bianca white, Bluetooth, DAB radio, cruise, aircon, rear park assist - Balance of 3 yr Peugeot warranty £11,850 + VAT |

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The new Bronco is inspired by a classic Ford of the Sixties. - but there are no plans to sell it here



Ford missed out on two different tricks in this week alone!

FORD is missing a trick this week – in fact, I think it's missing two.

Yesterday – in a build-up that was leaked all over the internet to excitable motoring types! – it unveiled a new off-roader directly inspired by one of its big hits of the Sixties. Yes, I know that's exactly what the Mustang Mach-E purports to do, but the new Bronco is a very different beast.

It's a big, knobbly off-roader that's unashamedly retro – yet the chaps in Detroit have no plans to ship it over here.

Which, I reckon, is a mistake – sorry, chaps and chap-ettes, you can have the new Kuga instead. What are you missing?

Well, it's going to be available in two-door form, including as a convertible, or you can spend it a bit more and get it as a fully-fledged, five-door mudplugger that sort of looks like the new Land Rover Defender described to an American over the phone.

It also closely resembles the first-generation Bronco (again, not sold here) of more than 50 years ago, but the tech's rather more up to date. Inside there's an 8-inch or 12-inch touchscreen infotainment system rigged up to Ford's latest tech, and under the skin most of the oily bits are shared with the Ranger pick-up truck. There's also a toned-down smaller model, the Bronco Sport, going on sale early next year too. The worst bit? In the States, the base model costs

\$29,995. I know that US cars always cost more when they cross the Atlantic, but if you convert that price into Her Majesty's English that's about the same as a mid-range Skoda Karoq. The only thing likely to get any of our American friends fired up is the conspicuous absence of a V8 under the hood – sorry, bonnet – but it does have the option of either a 266b

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2007	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3dr, 61k, in blue metallic	£1795
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55	FORD FOCUS 1.6 DIESEL 5DR, manual, in light blue metallic	£1595
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54	PEUGEOT 206 CC CONVERTIBLE in Lime Green with full cream leather	£1495
56	FORD FOCUS 1.6, in silver, FSH	£1495
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